

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 16995 201416Z

ACTION OES-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 OIC-02 AID-05 CEQ-01

CIAE-00 SOE-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 EPA-01

INR-10 L-03 NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-05 ICA-11

SS-15 SP-02 DOE-15 INT-05 H-01 /127 W

-----116848 210645Z /13

R 201358Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4563

USMISSION GENEVA

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 16995

DEPT PASS EPA FOR SHOSTAL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, SENV, UR,ECE

SUBJECT: ECE MEETING OF SPECIAL GROUP ON LONG

RANGE TRANSBOUNDARY AIR POLLUTION (TBAP) AND LOW

WASTE TECHNOLOGY (LWT)

REF: (A) GENEVA 10387, (B) GENEVA 10398, (C) MOSCOW

14175 (NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY NOTES WITH INTEREST REPORTS (REFTELS  
A & B) ON ECE SPECIAL GROUP DISCUSSIONS OF TRANS-  
BOUNDARY AIR POLLUTION (TBAP) AND LOW WASTE TECHNOLOGY  
(LWT). WE OFFER THE FOLLOWING BACKGROUND AND COMMENTS  
ON THE PROBABLE SOVIET POSTURE REGARDING THESE PROJECTS  
IN THE LIGHT OF SIX YEARS BILATERAL COOPERATIVE  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 16995 201416Z

EXPERIENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

-- TBAP - THE TWO WORKING GROUPS MOST PERTINENT TO TBAP  
ISSUES UNDER THE ENVIRONMENTAL BILATERAL ARE "AIR  
POLLUTION" AND "INFLUENCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE  
ON CLIMATE". ACTIVITIES WITHIN THESE WORKING GROUPS  
ARE CONCENTRATED ON EXAMINATION OF SPECIFIC POLLUTION  
REDUCTION TECHNOLOGIES FROM VARIOUS SOURCES, AND METH-

ODOLOGY-ORIENTED STUDIES ON POLLUTANT DISPERSAL (I.E., USING WIND TUNNELS AND LARGE-SCALE WEATHER AND CLIMATE MODELLING). TO THE EMBASSY'S KNOWLEDGE, THERE IS NO ON-GOING OR PLANNED BILATERAL WORK SPECIFICALLY ADDRESSED TO TBAP, NOR HAVE THE SOVIETS EVER PROVIDED COMPREHENSIVE POLLUTION EMISSION DATA UNDER THESE PROGRAMS.

-- LWT - THE SOVIETS HAVE SEVERAL TIMES SUGGESTED LWT AS A POSSIBLE TOPIC FOR COOPERATION WITHIN THE US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT, AND MADE SOMEWHAT SIMILAR APPROACHES IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ENERGY BILATERAL. US ATTEMPTS TO DETERMINE THE "STATE OF THE ART" OF LWT IN THE USSR OR EVEN CLARIFY WHAT THE SOVIETS MEAN BY THIS CONCEPT HAVE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL (WE ASSUME THAT THEIR MAJOR PURPOSE IS TO OBTAIN, AT NO COST, ACCESS TO COMMERCIALY LICENSED US TECHNOLOGY). IN ANY EVENT, NO LWT COOPERATION IS IN PROGRESS OR PLANNED.

2. WE ARE NOT SURPRISED AT SOVIET RELUCTANCE TO DIVULGE INFORMATION ON SPECIFIC POLLUTION SOURCES. THE SOVIETS REFUSED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON FLUROCARBON EMISSION LEVELS IN CONNECTION WITH A 1977 NAS STUDY - THE ONLY INSTANCE TO OUR KNOWLEDGE OF A SPECIFIC US REQUEST FOR SUCH TYPE OF INFORMATION - CLAIMING THESE DATA WERE NOT AVAILABLE ON A NATIONAL BASIS. GIVEN THE CURRENT STATE OF SOVIET MONITORING AND DATA PROCESSING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 16995 201416Z

TECHNOLOGY, AS WELL AS THEIR EMPHASIS ON PRODUCTION RATHER THAN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, THIS EXCUSE MAY WELL HAVE BEEN VALID. THE SOVIETS MAY NOW BE MAKING A STRONGER EFFORT TO MONITOR POLLUTION LEVELS IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR NEW POLLUTION STANDARDS (REF C), SCHEDULED TO GO INTO EFFECT IN 1980. WE DOUBT HOWEVER, THAT THEY WOULD WILLINGLY SHARE ANY GENUINE DATA, GIVEN THEIR CONGENITAL SECRECY CONCERNING THE RELEASE OF ANY INFORMATION ON PROBLEMS WITHIN THE SOVIET UNION.

3. THE SOVIETS HAVE SHOWN A STRONG INTEREST IN A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON THE ENVIRONMENT, EVEN WITHIN THE ECE FRAMEWORK, FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS. IT COULD PROVIDE ADDITIONAL ACCESS TO SUPERIOR WESTERN TECHNOLOGY AND METHODOLOGIES IN AN AREA OF GROWING CONCERN TO THE SOVIETS. MORE IMPORTANTLY, IT COULD ENHANCE THEIR ROLE IN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS AND ENHANCE THE PERSONAL PRESTIGE OF BREZHNEV. GIVEN THE STRENGTH OF SOVIET INTEREST IN SUCH A HLM, IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO EXTRACT SOMETHING USEFUL FROM THEM. WE THINK THE MAJOR POSSIBLE SOVIET CONTRIBUTION TO TBAP WOULD BE AN

INPUT ON EMISSION LEVELS, AND WE BELIEVE THE WEST  
SHOULD PRESS STRONGLY FOR A MEANINGFUL SOVIET CONTRIBU-  
TION ON THIS ISSUE. IN ANALAGOUS BILATERAL INSTANCES  
(.E., ENERGY FORECASTING) THE SOVIETS HAVE ADOPTED STAL-  
LING TACTICS. SHOULD THIS OCCUR WITH REGARD TO THIS HLM,  
WE THINK IT SHOULD BE MET BY A PROMPT WESTERN INDICATION  
OF INTENTION TO SHELVE THE TBAP AND LWT PROJECTS  
UNLESS SOVIETS PREPARED TO MAKE MEANINGFUL CONTRIBUTIONS.  
MATLOCK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIR POLLUTION, ENVIRONMENT, MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978MOSCOW16995  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780299-0938  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** MOSCOW  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780738/aaaabfzj.tel  
**Line Count:** 124  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** ca65a66f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION OES  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 GENEVA 10387, 78 GENEVA 10398, 78 MOSCOW 1978  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1940232  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ECE MEETING OF SPECIAL GROUP ON LONG RANGE TRANSBOUNDARY AIR POLLUTION (TBAP) AND LOW WASTE TECHNOLOGY (LWT)  
**TAGS:** TGEN, SENV, UR, ECE  
**To:** STATE GENEVA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/ca65a66f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014